GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:753
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011
ANAEMIA AMONG WOMEN
Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Natrajan Meenakshi

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note that a large number of women in the country suffer from anaemia;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for effective check and control of incidence of anaemia among women in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b): As per the National Family Health Survey report-III (2005-06) the prevalence of anaemia among ever married women (15-49 years) in the country is 55.3 %. State-wise details are annexed.

The important contributing factors for anaemia among the poulation including wormen in our country are: (i) inadequate intake of dietary iron, (ii) inadequate absorption of iron from cereal based diets, (iii) frequent pregnancies with shorter intervals, (iv) high prevalence of infections and infestations,(v) faulty feeding practices, (vi) lack of dietary diversification, (vii) illiteracy, (viii) poverty, (ix) socio-economic conditions, and (x) poor hygienic conditions etc.

(c) Specific measures are being taken to prevent and combat anaemia by supplementation of Iron and folic acid to pregnant and lactating women. Iron and Folic acid tablets are being distributed through Sub-centers and Primary Health Centers to targeted population viz. Pregnant women, lactating women, family planning acceptors. Under this programme, every pregnant woman is given 100 mg of elemental iron and 0.5 mg of Folic Acid for at least 100 days. Pregnant women who are anaemic are given an additional 100 tablets.